

JOURNAL

OF THE

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

OF THE

PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

IN THE

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,

HOLDEN IN

CHRIST'S CHURCH, RALEIGH,

*On Thursday May 19, Friday May 20, Saturday
May 21, and Monday May 23,*

1831.

FAYETTEVILLE:

PRINTED BY EDWARD J. HALE.

1832.

LIST OF ATTENDING MEMBERS.

CLERGY.

REV. JOHN AVERY, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Edenton, President of the Convention.

REV. WILLIAM D. CAIRNS, Rector of St. James's Church, Wilmington.

REV. GEORGE W. FREEMAN, Rector of Christ's Church, Raleigh.

REV. JOHN R. GOODMAN, Rector of Christ's Church, Newbern.

REV. WILLIAM M. GREEN, Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Hillsboro'.

REV. JARVIS B. BUXTON, Rector of St. John's Church, Fayetteville.

REV. THOMAS WRIGHT, Rector of St. Luke's, Salisbury, and Christ's Church, Rowan County.

REV. JOSEPH H. SAUNDERS, Missionary.

REV. WILLIAM N. HAWKS.

—REV. JOHN H. NORMENT.

LAITY.—DELEGATES.

Charles T. Haigh,

John W. Wright,

Charles P. Mallett,

E. L. Winslow,

James S. Green,

William C. Lord,

Thomas F. Davis, Jr.

Dr. Fred. J. Hill,

Duncan Cameron,

W. H. Haywood, Jr.

Ichabod Wetmore,

Dr. Beckwith.

John H. Bryan,

James W. Bryan,

Edward G. Pasteur,

Charles G. Spaight,

John B. Muse, St. Paul's Church, Edenton.

Walker Anderson,

Thomas Ruffin,

William Norwood,

William E. Anderson,

Joshua Skinner,

Charles R. Kinney,

Eli Hoyt,

William R. Harris,

Daniel Turner, Immanuel Church, Warrenton.

John C. Taylor, St. John's Church, Williamsborough.

} St. John's Church, Fayetteville.

} St. James's Church, Wilmington.

} Christ's Church, Raleigh.

} Christ's Church, Newbern.

} St. Matthew's Church, Hillsborough.

} Christ's Church, Elizabeth City.

} St. Peter's Church, Washington.

JOURNAL.



RALEIGH, MAY 19, 1831.

This being the day and place for the meeting of the fifteenth Annual Convention of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of North Carolina, the members assembled in Christ's Church, Raleigh. The Rev. John Avery was called to the Chair. The list of the Clergy was called by the Secretary and the following were present:

- Rev. TH. WRIGHT, Rector of St. Luke's Church, Salisbury.
- WM. M. GREEN, Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Hillsborough.
- G. W. FREEMAN, Rector of Christ's Church, Raleigh.
- JOHN AVERY, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Edenton.
- WM. D. CAIRNS, Rector of St. James's Church, Wilmington.
- JOHN R. GOODMAN, Rector of Christ's Church, Newbern.
- JARVIS B. BUXTON, Rector of St. John's Church, Fayetteville.

The Rev. R. J. Miller, Philip B. Wiley, and John H. Norment, Clerical members of the Convention, were absent.

On motion, a Committee was appointed to examine the certificates of Lay Delegates, who report the following Churches represented, and the following Delegates elected:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| C. T. Haigh, | } | St. John's Church, Fayetteville. |
| C. P. Mallett, | | |
| E. L. Winslow, | | |
| John W. Wright, | | |
| Jas. S. Green, | } | St. James's Church, Wilmington. |
| W. C. Lord, | | |
| Th. F. Davis, jr. | | |
| Dr. Fred'k. J. Hill, | | |
| Duncan Cameron, | } | Christ's Church, Raleigh. |
| Ichabod Wetmore, | | |
| W. H. Haywood, jr. | | |
| Dr. Beckwith, | } | Christ's Church, Newbern. |
| John H. Bryan, | | |
| Ed. G. Pasteur, | | |
| James W. Bryan, | | |
| Ch. G. Spaight, | } | St. Paul's Church, Edenton. |
| John B. Muse, | | |
| Walker Anderson, | } | St. Matthew's Church, Hillsborough. |
| Wm. Norwood, | | |
| Thomas Ruffin. | | |
| Wm. E. Anderson. | | |
| Paul C. Cameron, | } | St. Mary's Chapel, Orange. |
| Daniel Turner, | | |

Joshua Skinner,	}	Christ's Church, Elizabeth City.	
Ch. H. Kinney,			
Eli Hoyt,	}	St. Peter's Church, Washington.	
Wm. R. Harris,			
John C. Taylor,			St. John's Church, Williamsborough.
Jesse Robason,			St. John's Church, Durham's Creek.

The Convention being organized, proceeded to the election of a President and Secretary, and on counting the ballots, Rev. John Avery was elected President, and E. L. Winslow, Secretary.

A motion was made to alter the 3d article of the Constitution, by inserting after the words (in the proviso) "resident of the State," insert "or shall have been a Candidate for orders belonging to this Diocese." The amended proviso would read, "Provided, that he shall have been actually and canonically a resident of the State, or shall have been a Candidate for orders belonging to this Diocese, for the space of 12 calendar months next before the Convention.

Which amendment being adopted by the Convention, the Rev. Joseph H. Saunders and Rev. Wm. N. Hawks were admitted to seats as members of the Convention.

On motion, the Rev. T. S. W. Mott was invited to attend the sittings of the Convention.

The Convention adjourned to Divine Service.

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Committee of Finance and Committee on the State of the Church appointed.

Parochial Reports called for, read and referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Abstracts of Parochial Reports.

CHRIST'S CHURCH, RALEIGH.

Rev. George W. Freeman, Rector.

Baptisms, Raleigh, Adults 4; Children 5; Total 9	
Louisburg, 1 6 7	
Wake Forest, 2 2 2	
	— 18
Communicants,	37
Burials, (2 not of Congregation included)	6
Sunday School, average attendance, 40 to 45.	
Moneys paid, for Bishop's Salary,	\$35
Contingent Fund,	7
Missionary Society,	39
Sale of Bishop Ravenscroft's Works, 101	
	— \$182

GEORGE W. FREEMAN, *Rector.*

Parochial Report, of Rev. W. M. Green, Rector of St. Matthew's Church, Hillsborough.

The Rector of this Congregation, with entire submission to the will of God, is compelled to state that, owing to both personal and family affliction, the past year has been one of much anxiety and many prayers for his people, but not of much active exertion for their good. For six months, he was compelled to vacate his pulpit, and during a considerable part of that time to leave his flock, in search of health.

Baptisms, in St. Matthew's	11	Infants—1	Adult.
Communicants	42		2 added.
Sunday School Teachers	9		
Sunday Scholars	48		

The Rector's Bible and Catechetical Classes have been discontinued ever since the last Convention, but it is his design to re-establish them immediately. In October last, a weekly meeting for prayer and religious improvement was commenced, and has since been well attended by the members of the Congregation. The Rector takes this opportunity of acknowledging the benefit conferred on his flock by the zealous labours of two of their number, acting in the capacity of Lay-Readers to the rest. Never was the happy tendency of this wise provision of our Church more fairly tested, or more amply displayed; and it is with the desire that others may duly appreciate the value of lay-reading, that this particular notice of its benefits is here given. The Sunday School of this Congregation continues to prosper under the judicious care and pious attention of its Directress and Teachers. The Ladies Working Society, also still merits the approbation of the Diocese for its zealous and untiring labours in behalf of this portion of the Church.

Milton has not been visited since the last Convention, and it is feared, that the interests of that little Congregation have materially suffered by the removal of many of its members to other and distant residences.

St. Mary's Chapel has likewise not been visited, during the past year. The situation of the Congregation, remains, in consequence, the same as when last reported.

W. M. GREEN, *Rector.*

CHRIST'S CHURCH, NEWBERN.

Rev. J. R. Goodman, Rector.

Communicants, as per report of 1830,	86
Died and removed,	2
	—
	84
Since added,	7
Present number,	— 91
Baptisms, Adult,	1
Infants,	22
	— 23
Marriages,	9
Deaths,	8

Sunday School Teachers, Male	11
Female	20
	—31
Scholars, Male	79
Female	101
	—180

Candidates for Confirmation, so far as ascertained, 30.

The Rector of Christ's Church, Newbern, reports, that the cheering hopes which were expressed by him at the last Convention, as to a growth of piety and evangelical zeal among the people of his charge, have been, in a great measure, realized.

The Sunday School of the Parish, through a Divine blessing upon the exertions of the Board of Teachers, is still flourishing.

The Female Industrious Society of the Church, still continues its active exertions in behalf of the poor, exclusively.

J. R. GOODMAN, *Rector.*

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, WILMINGTON.

Rev. Wm. D. Cairns, Rector.

No material change has occurred in the condition of this Church, since the last Convention; 5 Communicants have died; 1 has removed; and 15 have been added; making the present number 146.

Marriages,	6
Baptisms, Adults 3; Infants 32; Total	35
Burials, Parishoners 6; Strangers 14; Total	20

The Sunday School continues to flourish. The number of Teachers is 17; the number of Scholars 112. The Library has been of manifest benefit to the School; it contains 220 volumes.

The Church Library has been considerably increased. It numbers nearly 700 volumes.

The Ladies have contributed as usual, by means of their Industrious Society, to the good of the Parish; and have now the pleasure of meeting weekly at the house of the Rector, which is chiefly the fruit of their labor.

A small Bible Class has been successfully occupied in the study of the Holy Scriptures.

There has been collected during the year, and paid over to the Treasurer of the Diocese—

Subscriptions to the Episcopal Fund,	\$177
Assessment for the Bishop's Salary,	90
Assessment for Contingent Fund,	20
Collections for Missionary Fund,	94 77
Payments for Bishop Ravenscroft's Works,	179 50
Profits from sale of Sermons for Missionary Society,	17 62
	<hr/>
	\$678 89
	<hr/>

WM. D. CAIRNS, *Rector.*

CHRIST'S CHURCH, ELIZABETH CITY.

Rev. Philip B. Wiley, Minister.

Baptisms, Infants	8
Communicants,	29
Decreased, by death	1
Removal, since last report	1
Burials, Adults	3
Marriages,	6
Sunday School Teachers,	10
Scholars,	50

The Minister, at present officiating in this Church, is not aware of any important change, in the spiritual condition of its members, since the period of the last report.

PHILIP B. WILEY, *Officiating Minister.*

PARISHES IN BEAUFORT COUNTY.

Rev. John H. Norment, Minister.

Communicants, Trinity Parish,	19
St. Thomas's Parish, Bath,	21
St. John's Parish,	10
St. James's Parish, Greenville,	3
	— 53
Baptisms, Trinity Parish,	2
St. Thomas's Parish, Bath,	3
St. John's Parish,	1
St. James's Parish, Greenville,	2
	— 8
Funerals, Trinity Parish,	1
St. Thomas's Parish, Bath,	1
	— 2

The above Congregations came under my charge in January last, since which time, Divine Service has been performed in each, regularly every month. The Communion has not been administered in any one except Trinity; but the number of Communicants reported, has been ascertained from the registers formerly kept, deducting removals and deaths. In order to secure to themselves regular services for the future, a separation of the country Parishes from that of St. Peter's in Washington, took place last Winter. It was deemed most conducive to the general good, to make of this field, two distinct departments of labor; and that each should possess its responsible Rector. The Congregation of St. James's Parish, Greenville, though including at the present time but 3 Communicants, has manifested a praiseworthy zeal to obtain the services of a Pastor, by subscribing towards my support the sum of \$100. In addition to the Baptisms reported above, there should be mentioned two children of Zion Chapel, at present a vacant Parish; but to which I have promised occasional services.

JOHN H. NORMENT, *Minister.*

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, EDENTON.

Rev. John Avery, Rector.

Baptisms,	8
Marriages,	1
Burials,	4
Communicants, about	30

The Sunday School is continued. A Parish and Sunday School Library, have been established, and the Working Society have been able to contribute a considerable sum to the advancement of the interests of the Church.

JOHN AVERY, *Rector.*

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, WASHINGTON.

Rev. W. N. Hawks, Minister.

Communicants,	61
Baptisms,	16
Marriages,	1
Burials,	7

W. N. HAWKS, *Minister.*

Convention adjourned to 9 o'clock A. M., Friday.

9 O'CLOCK FRIDAY.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Standing Committee reported as follows:

The Standing Committee, since the last Convention, have invited the Rt. Rev. Bishop Bowen of South Carolina to take charge of the Diocese, and he has accepted the invitation.

A certificate in favor of the Consecration of the Rev. Wm. M. Stone, Bishop elect of Maryland, has been granted.

Testimonials for Priest's Orders have been furnished to the Rev. Jarvis B. Buxton; and also recommendations to Wm. N. Hawks, and Joseph H. Saunders for Deacon's Orders. They have during the Convention, recommended Wm. W. Spear, as a candidate for Deacon's Orders.

J. AVERY, *President.*

John W. Wright, Treasurer of the Diocese, made his report.

On motion, referred to the Committee of Finance.

On motion of Rev. Wm. M. Green, *Resolved*, That W. W. Spear, a candidate for Orders in this Diocese, be and is hereby appointed to fill the Scholarship to which this Diocese is entitled in the General Theological Seminary, and that said appointment date from the 4th July, 1831.

On motion, the Convention proceeded to elect the Standing Committee for the ensuing year:

Messrs. Avery, Freeman, Green, Goodman, of the Clergy, and Messrs. Hogg, Wright, and W. Anderson, of the Laity, were elected.

On motion the Convention proceeded to the election of Delegates to the General Convention.

Messrs. Freeman, Avery, Wright, and Green of the Clergy, and Messrs. Hogg, Anderson, Collins, and Winslow, of the Laity, were elected.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock.

FRIDAY, 3 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Convention will proceed at 9 o'clock to-morrow, to the election of a Bishop for this Diocese.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Wm. D. Cairns be appointed, to ascertain the State of the Subscription, in this Diocese, to the General Theological Seminary, and report to the next Convention.

Testimonials of the Organization of a Congregation at Clinton, Sampson County, being presented to the Convention, they, on motion, were referred to the Committee on the State of the Church.

Adjourned to Saturday 9 o'clock, A. M.

SATURDAY 9 O'CLOCK A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee of Finance reported, that the financial affairs of the Diocese, were in an improving state, and that by increasing the assessments 25 per cent. on the present amount, the Convention might engage a salary of \$1250 to a Bishop.

The hour appointed for proceeding to the election of a Bishop having arrived,

On motion the members of the Convention engaged in Silent Prayer for some minutes, after which, the clergy proceeded to nominate a suitable person for the office of Bishop. On counting the ballots, it was found, that the Rev. Levi S. Ives, a Presbyterian of the Diocese of New York, had received all the votes save one, which was blank.

Convention adjourned to 3 o'clock P. M.

3 O'CLOCK P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Laity do now proceed to ballot by Congregations on the nomination of the Clergy. The votes being counted, it was found, that all the votes were in favor of the Rev. L. S. Ives, save that of one Congregation, which was blank.

Whereupon the President of the Convention declared, that the Rev. Levi S. Ives, a Presbyterian of the Diocese of New York, was duly elected Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the Diocese of North Carolina.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the members of the Convention, do now engage in silent thanksgiving to the great Head of the Church, for controlling the will of this Convention, and uniting their hearts as the heart of one man in the choice of one to serve him in the highest office of the Church.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary do now prepare, and the members proceed to sign the Testimonial of the election of the Bishop,

which being prepared, was signed by all the Clerical members, and by all the Lay members with the exception of three.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the next Convention be held in the Town of Edenton, on the of May, 1832.

The Committee on the State of the Church, made the following report, which was adopted.

REPORT

OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE CHURCH.

The Committee on the State of the Church respectfully report:

That a review of the spiritual condition of the Diocese, so far as it can be ascertained from the Parochial Reports laid before them, presents much ground for thankfulness to Almighty God, on this happy occasion of our assembling together.

If there were no other circumstance to cheer us in our labours, or to call forth our hearty thanksgivings, your Committee might direct your attention to the unusual number of "the Brethren" assembled at this time to share in our councils, and to witness our proceedings, as well as to that spirit of love and mutual confidence which appears to animate all present. It is delightful thus to witness a whole Diocese, though widely scattered over a large extent of country, and thus deprived of the benefit of frequent and personal interchange of thought, yet at the same time strangers to every thing like distrust or jealousy, or division among themselves. In this happy state of things (which we pray may be perpetual) we see not only an answer to the earnest supplications that have been every where within our borders offered up for a blessing on our present meeting, but also the wholesome fruits of that sound doctrine and Apostolic order in which our late lamented Father instructed us, and for which we may almost say, he offered up his life.

In almost every Congregation, the cause of sound religion appears to be advancing with a steady, though not rapid pace. Forty-nine Communicants have been registered since the last Convention—making the present number 674. But there is no doubt that there would be found to be at least 700, if returns could be received from all our Churches.

It appears that there have been 208 Baptisms during the past year, of which 14 were adults.

Without exception, the Sunday Schools in every Congregation present a cheering prospect of present good to the young, as well as future strength and usefulness to the Church. The number of Sunday Scholars, as reported at this time, is 621—Sunday Teachers 98.

The Libraries attached to these Schools, are yearly increasing in number; and your Committee are truly gratified to learn that they are generally selected with care, and with particular reference to their character for sound doctrine, as well as the excitement of devotional feeling.

From some of these Schools your Committee are grieved to hear the complaint of want of suitable teachers, especially *male* teachers. When will our people be fully awake to the unspeakable importance of Sunday Schools? And how long shall we continue to hear that the male members of our Congregations are outstripped in zeal and every holy exertion by

those who in the order of creation and Providence, should look up to them: for examples in all that concerns both "the life that now is, and that which is to come"?

Here also, your Committee would beg leave to direct your attention to those benevolent associations of females which exist in all our larger Congregations, and which, by their silent but efficient course, are yearly fertilizing this portion of the garden of the Lord. Were it practicable to calculate the amount of good derived both to these individuals themselves, and to the objects of their pious labours, it would doubtless be found, that much of our present happy condition as a Diocese, is the immediate effect of the Divine blessing on the work of their hands, and the prayers of their hearts. May they not be "weary in well doing;"—and may the abundant blessing of Almighty God prosper their handy-work!

One Priest and two Deacons have been ordained since the last Convention; and another Candidate for orders has been received, making the present number three.

A new Church has been completed, and is ready for consecration.

A new Congregation has been organized, and the proper testimonials of the same having been laid before your Committee, it is hereupon recommended, that said Congregation be received into union with this Convention.

It is a source of much pleasure to your Committee to see, that in most, if not all of our principal Congregations, the Clergy continue to devote considerable attention to Bible Classes and Catechetical instruction; for it is in this way more than by the public preaching of the Word, that the hearts of the young may be brought under Divine influence, and their minds imbued with the knowledge of "Apostolic order," and of the "faith once delivered to the Saints."

The Report of our Treasurer to this Convention shows, that the pecuniary interests of the Diocese are gradually improving under the recent liberality of individuals, as well as the accumulation of interest and collections on old subscriptions. It is gratifying to perceive that the assessments on the Congregations, for the expenses of the Episcopate, and for the Contingent Fund, have been pretty generally complied with.

But among the many causes that are at present in operation to "make glad" this portion of God's Church, your Committee cannot but notice with distinguished approbation the formation, and already effectual labors of the "Missionary, Bible, Common Prayer Book, and Tract Society." Although but a twelve month in existence, it has already done much to answer the sanguine hopes of the Diocese, and to fulfil the designs of our late beloved Diocesan, to whom, under God, it is chiefly indebted for its origin. Upon referring to the report of the said Society for the past year, it will be seen, that the "Managers have entered upon the discharge of their duties with a zeal and diligence that call for the warmest approbation of this Convention. Embracing as it does, so many and such important objects, and associated as it is, with the dearest recollections of our departed Father, it may with great propriety, be earnestly commended to the liberality and prayers of the whole Diocese.

In conclusion, your Committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Congregation of St. Peter's Church, Clinton, be received into union with this Convention.

W. M. GREEN, *Chairman*.

John W. Wright, Esq. was unanimously elected Treasurer of the Convention, for the ensuing year.

Convention adjourned to Monday 6 o'clock A. M.

MONDAY, 6 O'CLOCK A. M.

The business having been closed, the Convention adjourned after Prayer and benediction by the President.

E. L. WINSLOW, *Secretary*.



